Import of pesticides by Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited

1791. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that about six months ago M/s. Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd., New Delhi, has invited global tenders for import of pesticides worth several crores of rupees and if so, the names and addresses of the manufacturers/their authorised agents in India who quoted FOB as well as CIF price, product-wise and party-wise;

(b) what are the names, addresses of the manufacturers/their authorised agents in India whose quotations have been approved/accepted, product-wise and at what rates and percentage of commission offered/given or included in the price to manufacturers' authorised agents in India, product-wise and party-wise; and

(c) what are the names and addresses of the parties with whom KRIBHCO has entered/finalised contract for formulation of technical grade of pesticides and on what terms product-wise and party-wise and period of contract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) to (c) Although global tenders for the import of pesticides were invited by Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited, no action for actual import was taken in view of indigenous availability of pesticides and consequently Government's decision not to import pesticides. Since no contracts were concluded on the basis of these quotations, the question of giving names, addresses of the manufacturers/their authorised agents in India, rates etc. does not arise.

Special Flood assistance to AP

1792. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andra Pradesh Rashtra Karshaka Parishad has requested to Central Government for provision of special assistance to the tune of Rs. 123 crores to provide relief to the farmers who suffered due to heavy rain and floods during July and August; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Strategy for quick crops

1793. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has formulated a strategy for quick crops; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One of the mandates of the crop Research Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the All India Coordinated Crop Improvement Projects, is to develop short duration varieties which may fit well in the multiple cropping sequences and which can also be grown under rainfed situations. The list of promising short duration varieties released